

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added by this amendment. Claims 8-10 and 12-17 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in these claims. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

It is asserted in the Office Action, in paragraph 3, that claims 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Independent claim 1 is amended to obviate this rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the enumerated claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

It is further asserted in the Office Action, in paragraph 4, that claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over "A design of multimedia collaboration system for seminar type collaborative learning," an article by Kimura et al. (hereinafter "Kimura") and U.S. Patent No. 5,907,324 to Larson et al. (hereinafter "Larson"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Kimura discloses research in the field of Computer Supported Collaborative Work and Computer Supported Collaborative Learning. Specifically, the article discusses the requirement for a support system, and the various functions required and the systems to implement them for facilitating collaborative work/learning. The Office Action concedes that Kimura does not teach that the generated meeting data, as taught by Kimura, are identified by labels for respective particular units of a meeting, as positively recited in independent claims 1 and 11. The Office Action relies on Larson to overcome this admitted deficiency of Kimura.

Larson discloses a method of saving, retrieving and dynamically establishing a plurality of conference parameters. The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the system for meeting data, of Kimura, to include the identification of meeting data by labels, as taught by Larson.

The Examiner asserts, with respect to the references of Kimura and Larson, that, "[o]ne would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to provide users with a persistent and efficient data structure that allows users to record many more characteristics and parameters of a conference and retrieve the recorded information fast and easily."

Applicants respectfully submit that this statement, as reported in the Office Action, is not supported by objective evidence of record, in either of the asserted prior art references.

Rather, Larson teaches allowing a user to retrieve conference parameters, from a persistent conference file, and automatically resume any prior conference, still is session, while Kimura teaches recording a session for later viewing, after termination of the conference. Thus, the motivation as associated with Larson, as asserted in the Office Action, is directed to minimizing the efforts to resume a pre-existing conference (Col.3, lines 5-11), while Kimura's inventive intent is to archive the data for subsequent viewing, after the other participants have terminated the conference. Therefore, the alleged motivation to combine the references as asserted in the Office Action, with respect to the subject matter of the pending claims, falls short of meeting the required standard for such a showing, *i.e.*, the Office Action lacks the required specific evidence of a teaching, suggestion or motivation in the prior art for one of ordinary skill to combine the references. The applied references do not exhibit the motivation to achieve a common goal, nor do the references teach or suggest such a desire, as asserted in the Office Action.

In addition to the arguments presented above, the applied references of Kimura and Larson each disclose using single Operating Systems, *i.e.*, Macintosh and Windows,

respectively, within the various functional units. Specifically, Kimura, teaches that the system is implemented using card type data base Wadaman which operates over MacOS (Macintosh Operating System) (page 3, first paragraph). Further, Larson teaches that the invention has application to a window-based graphic user interface display system (col. 6, lines 27-28). Thus, each reference teaches the use of a single operating system, and does not teach, or suggest, the ability to operate in a multiplicity of operating systems, or an ability to convert data between the various operating systems.

The subject matter of the pending claims, specifically independent claims 1 and 11, recite the supplied-data being interpretable by a virtual machine. "Virtual Machine" being defined in the disclosure as "[t]he use of the virtual machine allows supplied-data to be transmitted without concern for the type of an apparatus to which the supplied-data is to be transmitted and the type of the OS used in the apparatus" (emphasis added). Therefore, the subject matter of the pending claims positively recites the ability to operate within an environment containing a series of multiple operating systems, and a conversion unit that includes a virtual machine for converting the received supplied-data into a common format, readable by the various operating systems, which allows the generation unit to generate the meeting data.

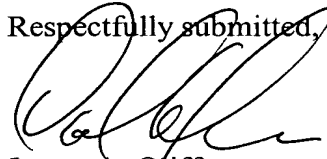
Even if the references are combinable, as argued above, the Office Action fails to "teach, or suggest, all the claim limitations," required in establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness and as cited in MPEP §2142. Therefore, Kimura and Larson cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or even to have suggested, the combination of all of the features recited in at least independent claims 1 and 11. Further, claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are also neither taught, nor would they have been suggested, by the applied prior art references for at least the dependence of these claims on allowable independent claim 1, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the subject matter of claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura and Larson are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Daniel A. Tanner, III
Registration No. 54,734

JAO:KDB/brc

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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